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TAGS: PREL MARR MOPS NATO PINS HR DEFENSE REFORM SUBJECT: CROATIA FULLY SUPPORTS NATO'S PROMISE TO

**AFGHANISTAN** 

REF: SECSTATE 186256

Classified By: Political Officer Tom Selinger for reasons 1.4 (b) & (d) .

11. (C) Post delivered reftel points tailored for NATO partners to Neven Mikec, Head of MFA's NATO department, on November 14. Mikec expressed the GoC's complete support for NATO's call for additional forces in Afghanistan. He noted that Croatia's nearly 150 troops in Afghanistan, including those currently in Kandahar, operate under no caveats. The GoC proposes to increase its contribution to 200 troops in 2007 and to 300 in 2008, when it hopes to take over a Provincial Reconstruction Team. Parliament is expected to vote on 2007 troop levels in December.

BRADTKE